

CERTIFIED MAIL

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAN 03 2006

First Named Inventor : Stephen T. Kuehn	
Appln. No.: 09/694,293	Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed : October 23, 2000	
For : MITRAL AND TRICUSPID VALVE REPAIR	Examiner:
Docket No.: S16.12-0101	Vi X. Nguyen

PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF  
TIME AND FEE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING  
TRANSMITTED VIA FAX, 571-273-6300, TO THE  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450,  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, THIS

6 DAY OF January, 2006  
Hallie A. Finucane  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicant hereby petitions for a three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action dated July 7, 2005. Enclosed is Charge Authorization Form PTO-2038 for the amount of \$1,690.00 to cover the fee for the extension of time (\$1,020.00 less \$120.00 paid November 7, 2005) and the fee for the Request for Continued Examination (\$790.00). If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

01/09/2006 MBINAS 00000026 09694293

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HAF:lms